Attachment 11
Program Preferences
Rohner Creek Flood Control and Riparian Habitat Improvement Project

The City of Fortuna has identified Regional Goals which the proposed project would meet. The proposed project address Program Preferences stipulated by PRC §75026 (b) and CWC §10544 (Table 11.1 NCIRWMP Program Preferences). The project also addresses high priorities of the Department of Water Resources, State Water Board, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California Department of Fish and Game

Integrated Regional Goals	Project Element that meets Regional Goal
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's (NCRWQCB) Watershed Management Initiative	-Conserve and enhance native salmonid populations by protecting and restoring required habitats, water quality and watershed processes, -Support implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) by reducing sediments loads to the Eel River which is listed as sediment impaired in the State's 303(d) list.
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's (NCRWQCB) Non-Point Source Program Plan	Reduce exposure of City infrastructure and potential point source pollutant sources to flood waters.
Environmental Justice Issues	Reduce impact of flooding on Redevelopment Area adjacent to Rohner Creek within City of Fortuna, which is blighted due to reoccurring flooding. The City of Fortuna is also considered a disadvantaged community as defined a having a median household income (MHI) of less than 80% of the statewide MHI.

Integrated Regional Goals	Project Element that meets Regional Goal
2004 California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon	-The proposed project addresses temperature and habitat impacts to the lower Eel River which is a CDFG high priority area. -The proposed project will include habitat improvement elements that will benefit both aquatic and avian species. The inclusion of large woody debris and instream habitat structures will provide refugia for spawning and rearing Salmonids including the Federally and State listed (threatened) Coho Salmon, and the Federally listed (threatened) Chinook Salmon and Coastal Steelhead. The proposed project will increase the diversity and complexity of riparian plantings and increase riparian habitat value suitable for avian species including the State listed (Endangered) Willow Flycatcher and Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo.
North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)	The proposed project will re-introduce habitat restoration features into the corridor to enhance Salmonid populations. The proposed restoration and water quality improvement elements are consistent with multiple beneficial uses specified in the North Coast Region Basin Plan and supports the implementation of TMDLs by reducing sediment inputs to the lower Eel River, which is listed on the State's 303(d) list of impaired water for impairments due to sedimentation/ siltation. The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) codifies California's goal of reducing statewide emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) to 1990 levels by 2020. The proposed project will include native riparian planting through the channel corridor that will capture carbon by taking in atmospheric Carbon Dioxide (CO2), converting it to plant mass through photosynthesis, and then sequestering the carbon in the soils that form as plant matter decomposes and thereby contributing to the State's effort, mandated through AB 32 and SB 375, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The City of Fortuna is a disadvantaged community, with a median household income of $31,129, which is 65% of the State of California's MHI, according to data derived from the 2000 US Census. Additional information on consistency with NCIRWMP is presented in Attachment 3.
Statewide Priorities for IRWM	
Climate Change Response Actions	The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) codifies California's goal of reducing statewide emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) to 1990 levels by 2020. The proposed project will include native riparian planting through the channel corridor that will capture carbon by taking in atmospheric Carbon Dioxide (CO2), converting it to plant mass through photosynthesis, and then sequestering the carbon in the soils that form as plant matter decomposes and thereby contributing to the State's effort, mandated through AB 32 and SB 375, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Integrated Regional Goals	Project Element that meets Regional Goal
Expand Environmental Stewardship	The proposed project would protect and enhance the environment through the habitat improvements that would be made to the Rohner Creek channel. This is one of the first big creek improvement projects the City has undertaken, and thus it will bring improved awareness to the community about the benefits of restoration projects and the benefits they bring to native plants and animals. The three species of salmonids that inhabit the North Coast hydrologic region (steelhead trout, coho and Chinook salmon) are federally listed under Endangered Species Act (ESA) and are the targets of California Department of Fish and Game species recovery plans, as well as substantial State funding and resources. Because these fish are anadromous – spending a substantial part of their lives in the ocean – the status of their populations has far reaching impacts throughout the region, the state and the world. Restoration of viable populations of salmonids to the North Coast region – through a collective program of sediment reduction, in-stream flow augmentation, habitat improvement, and NPS/TMDL implementation – will have significant positive impacts on ecosystem health and biodiversity, local, regional and state economies, cultural uses for tribal groups and conflict reduction related to in-stream flows and watershed land use.
Practice Integrated Flood Management	By widening the channel of Rohner Creek, the severity of flooding events would be diminished. In addition, the proposed bypass channel would redirect exceedance flow to the lower reaches of Rohner and allow the 10-year storm event to remain within the channel banks. The habitat enhancements of the project would also work to diminish the erosive factors of large storm events and improve the water quality of downstream reaches.
Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality	The habitat improvements and bank stabilization objectives of the project would reduce the amount of sediment that would be discharged into Strongs Creek and eventually the Eel River, which is a 303d listed water body.
State of California Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP)	
Reduce Life Loss and Injuries	The proposed project meets objectives 4, 5, and 6 of this goal which relate to mitigating threats to life safety and ensuring unsafe structures are modified over time to meet current standards, by replacing the four undersized seismically unsafe bridges and reducing people's exposure to flooding.

Integrated Regional Goals	Project Element that meets Regional Goal
Minimize Damage to Structure and Property	The proposed project meets objectives 2 and 3 by implementing life and property protection measures in hazard areas and reducing impacts of repetitive loss through planned City projects.
Protect the Environment	The project addresses objectives 1, 2, 3, and 5 through working with local permitting agencies to assure the project meets applicable environmental laws and incorporating environmental enhancements into the project to improve riparian habitat.
Promote Hazard Mitigation as an Integrated Public Policy	The City meets this objective through participation in the local Stormwater Coalition group, which provides monitoring, public outreach, and other stormwater resources through and integrated network of local agencies.
Humboldt County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan	
Protect health and safety, protect property, protect the economy, protect quality of life, protect the environment, and promote partnerships in planning.	The proposed project would maintain the 10-year flood event within the banks of Rohner Creek and decrease the damage caused by flooding from larger events.